

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota is known for its strong family traditions—family farms, family businesses, and family vacations; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for families to come together to share their experiences, exchange their life's stories and dreams, build life-long relationships, and discover their roots; and,

Whereas, The backbone of our nation is the strength and unifying permanence of the family unit; and,

Whereas, Though families may split apart in geographical sense, distance cannot break the powerful bonds of emotional and spiritual togetherness; and,

Whereas, Such is the case for the Marion and Mattie Parker family, a large and loving group of close-knit kin, many having traveled great distances simply to share the pleasure and rewards of each others company; and,

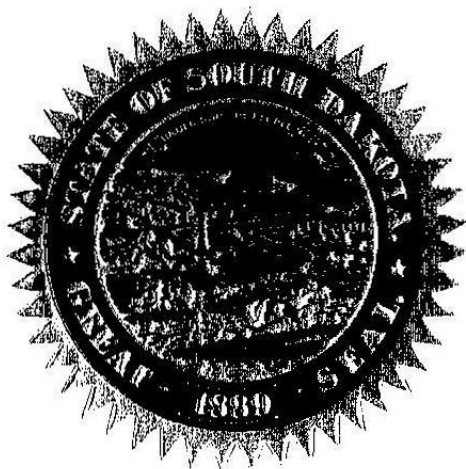
Whereas, Since 1984, the Marion and Mattie Parker family has traveled every year, with the exception of two years, to various locations in the country in order to "keep the lines open," to share the pleasure and rewards of each other's company, and to celebrate their lives and love for one another; and,

Whereas, On July 23-25, 2010, the Parker family will gather at Ft. Pierre, South Dakota, to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the first reunion, and to partake in a wide range of activities, fun and frolic, and to pay homage to the past and renew its commitment to the future of the Parker name and all the great things that it represents:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 23-25, 2010, as

PARKER FAMILY REUNION DAYS

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Nineteenth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State